



Take a closer look . . .

Achieving a College Education

Hundreds of educational programs receive federal funding each year to help youth succeed academically and pursue higher education. As a Congressman, Rep. Ed Pastor plays an important role in supporting funding for educational programs that benefit his constituents.

Achieve a College Education, or ACE, is a federally-funded program that has helped thousands of at-risk students in Maricopa County pursue their dream of higher education. With Rep. Pastor's support, the ACE program at Maricopa Community Colleges received a \$1 million federal grant last year to keep working with minority, low-income and at-risk youth in high school and transition them into college.

FIGHTING DROPOUT PROBLEM

ACE is part of a solution that addresses two critical challenges facing Arizona - high school dropout rates that are far too high and college enrollment rates, especially among low income and minority students, which are too low. It is a proven, cost-effective partnership among the Maricopa Community Colleges, 63 local high schools, students considered at risk of dropping out of high school, and the students' families. The program identifies eligible students in the tenth grade and provides a positive learning environment. The program provides academic support and early alert and intervention strategies to keep students in high school, and the opportunity to begin earning up to 24 college credits on a college campus.

PROGRAM SERVES 1,800 STUDENTS

Currently the program serves more than 1,800 students. Until recently, the program was offered only at South Mountain and Glendale Community Colleges. It is now available

at all ten of the Maricopa Community Colleges. Each of the college's ACE programs are specific to the needs of the surrounding communities they serve.

EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESS

The success of students in the ACE program has been extraordinary. Perhaps even more remarkably, ACE produces these results for just more than \$750 per student per year. The goal of the ACE Program is to serve up to 3,500 at-risk students every year, and in doing so, change the lives and futures of thousands of young people in Maricopa County. ACE is able to provide these opportunities through federal funding and generous contributions from public and private corporations, organizations, foundations and individuals. ACE is administered through Maricopa Community Colleges, Student Affairs.



During a recent visit to Udall Elementary School in west Phoenix, Congressman Ed Pastor discussed higher education opportunities, including the ACE program with 8th grade pupils.

Military academy representatives meet with students, parents

Representatives from the nation's five service academies met with students and parents from the Fourth Congressional District during Congressman Pastor's recent military academy event.

Students and parents were able to meet with military academy representatives and discuss admission requirements for the academies.

In the photo on the right, a Naval Academy representative discusses admission requirements with a student and his father.



How to contact Congressman Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs.

Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

Web Page (use site for electronic mail): <http://www.house.gov/pastor>

Washington Office

2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0302
Phone: (202) 225-4065

Phoenix District Office

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: (602) 256-0551

I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND MAIL ONLY TO MY PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE.

Due to the threat of anthrax-contaminated mail delivered to the Capitol complex, all incoming letters to my Washington Office must be irradiated before delivery, resulting in a delay of at least three weeks. Feel free to send mail instead to my Phoenix District Office. Thanks.

✂ *Clip and save* ✂

Congressman

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

District Update

April 2006

WASHINGTON OFFICE

2465 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4065

PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-256-0551

www.house.gov/pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor
411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Official Business

M.C.
Presorted Standard

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.
This mailing was prepared, published and
mailed at taxpayer expense.



CONGRESSMAN

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

District Update

INSIDE

- ▶ ACE program
- ▶ Pastor scores strong on environment

Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

April 2006

Federal programs helping district, constituents

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

As your Congressman, my work not only involves national legislative priorities, but I also work to improve the quality of life for constituents in the Fourth Congressional District.

This often involves support of programs that bring economic, educational, housing, health care, transportation and other types of improvements to our district. I hope you will read below and inside about some federally-backed projects that are helping to better our everyday lives, our dis-

trict and our state.

As always, feel free to contact my Phoenix District Office with any of your concerns.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

Market boosts downtown economy



The U.S. Department of Agriculture, among other state and local agencies, have partnered with the Downtown Phoenix Public Market to encourage community revitalization, economic development and showcase local agriculture, art and crafts in the central city. Rep. Pastor recently visited the market to discuss the federal-local partnership with vendors, including artist Alan Jones on the left. Another vendor sells fruit below as the market marks its first anniversary.



President's proposed budget takes wrong direction, hurts families

Our national budget should reflect the ideals and priorities of the American people - honest leadership, economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools. But the Bush Administration's Fiscal Year 2007 Budget fails on all of these counts.

Instead of leading the country in a bold new direction, it continues on the same misguided path of the last five years, creating record deficits while putting special interests first and the American people last.

Middle class families, rural communities, minority communities, seniors, students – every part of our society, except special interests, lose out with this budget.

As your Congressman, I will join my colleagues in fighting for a budget that puts working families before special interests. Our nation needs a budget that is fiscally responsible, honors middle class values, and gives compassion to those in need. Together, America can do better than out-of-control deficits and misplaced priorities.

Community organizations highlight local concerns

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met in Washington with representatives from the Arizona Community Action Association, local public officials and government representatives to discuss federal funding concerns for nutrition, child care and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) programs.



Budget cuts would hurt education efforts



Congressman Pastor recently met with representatives from the Arizona School Board Association in Washington to discuss concerns with proposed cuts to the federal budget.

The president's proposed budget eliminates 42 educational programs such as Arts in Education and Close Up Fellowships. It also makes the biggest cut to education investments in 10 years, said Rep. Ed Pastor.

Key to the cuts are proposals which provide \$15.4 billion less for education than promised by the No Child Left Behind Act - denying 3.7 million children promised help with reading and math.

It also would put college further out of reach for millions of Americans by once again freezing the maximum Pell Grants and cutting funding for critical higher education programs.

Initiatives to expand college opportunities and K-12 programs also would see funding slashed.

HOPE for Henson Village residents



Affordable housing is a critical issue in Phoenix and Rep. Ed Pastor has been key to helping Valley cities and agencies connect to federal programs that can help residents with this quality of life issue.

HOPE (Homeownership Opportunities for People Everywhere) VI, a federally funded program, awarded a \$35 million revitalization grant to the City of Phoenix Housing Department to help fix the distressed Matthew Henson Public Housing Project located in central Phoenix.

In February, Rep. Pastor met with Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon and other local leaders at the new Henson Village to mark the opening of the new 327 units. The development houses low-income, middle-income and market-rate tenants with the goal of creating healthier neighborhoods and better living standards. A three-story building will provide 129 apartments for seniors.

In the photo on the left, Rep. Pastor discusses the federal HOPE VI revitalization grant that has helped make improvements at Henson Village in Phoenix. He spoke with Willie Mae Young, a Henson Village resident, and David Adame, Vice President of Arizona Operations for McCormack Baron Salazar, the project's master developer.



In March, Congressman Pastor met with representatives of the Arizona Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America to discuss the proposed federal health care budget. Next to Pastor are Michael Roberts, Arthur Hardy and Kathleen Livingston.

Pastor pushes for health care

In Congress, Rep. Pastor supports proposals to cut health care costs and reduce the number of uninsured people. He also supports a health insurance tax credit for small businesses and allowing Americans aged 55-64 to buy into Medicare, in addition to bringing down prescription drug costs.

Brophy senior's artwork headed to U.S. Capitol display

A high school senior at **Brophy College Preparatory** in Phoenix has been selected as the winner of the Fourth Congressional District's Art Competition and was recognized in a brief ceremony March 20 by U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor. **Imran Shafi** won the competition with his oil on canvas painting entitled "The Foretelling." His art teacher is Deborah Cronin.

Second place went to **Fatma Thoayleb**, a sophomore at **Apollo High School** in Glendale. Her charcoal drawing was entitled "Found in Translation." Third place was awarded to **Abner Rodriguez**, a senior at **Summit High School** in Phoenix. His acrylic painting was entitled "Eso Es Todo Aqui."

Ten students were noted as honorable mentions: Monique Rodriguez, Cassie Hall, Maria Paz, Owen Rinehart, and Martin Barron, all from **Trevor Browne High School**; Cody Jayne Albin from **Apollo**; Sonia Gutierrez from **South Pointe High School**; and Al-Malik Fard Allah, Thomas Briones, and Marlen Peña from **Metro Tech High School**.

As the first place winner, Imran's art work will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for a year and he will be flown with parents or guardians to Washington to be recognized at the June 28 "An Artistic Discovery" Capitol Hill ceremony.

Pastor discusses insurance issues in district

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with representatives from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona to discuss federal health care legislation affecting constituents, wellness programs, association health plans and health information technology issues in Congress. In the photo on the right are Jody Chandler, Sandy Gibson, Rich Boals, Pastor, Sue Navran and Tony Astorga.



Rep. Pastor earns high mark on environmental scorecard

The nonprofit League of Conservation Voters has given Congressman Ed Pastor an almost perfect score on its National Environmental Scorecard, which reviews votes on key issues affecting the environment.

Pastor received a score of 94 out of 100 on key votes, including those involving the House Energy Bill and Energy Conference Report, fuel standards, clean up of MTBE (methyl tertiary-butyl ether), a gasoline additive, environmental justice, air pollution, and protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.



Photo by Digital Art by Robert Smith

Congressman Pastor's District Director Ron Piceno, right, discussed federal small business issues with Jeffrey Garza Walker, Chair of the South Mountain/Laveen Chamber of Commerce Board, during a recent meeting.

Mobile Office Hours

Hours at all sites: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

South Mountain Community Center

212 E. Alta Vista, Phoenix

First Wednesday of every month

Golden Gate Community Center

1625 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix

Second Tuesday of every *other* month

Next one in April

Desert West Community Center

6501 W. Virginia Ave., Phoenix

Second Tuesday of every *other* month

Next one in May

Glendale Community Center

5401 W. Ocotillo, Glendale

Third Thursday of every month

Guadalupe Senior Center

9401 S. Avenida del Yaqui, Guadalupe

Fourth Tuesday of every month.